

CONGRESSIONAL BUDGET OFFICE,
U.S. CONGRESS,
Washington, DC, April 20, 2016.

Hon. MICHAEL MCCAUL,
Chairman, Committee on Homeland Security,
House of Representatives, Washington, DC.

DEAR MR. CHAIRMAN: The Congressional Budget Office has prepared the enclosed cost estimate for H.R. 4482, the Southwest Border Security Threat Assessment Act of 2016.

If you wish further details on this estimate, we will be pleased to provide them. The CBO staff contact is Mark Grabowicz.

Sincerely,

KEITH HALL.

Enclosure.

H.R. 4482—Southwest Border Security Threat Assessment Act of 2016

H.R. 4482 would require the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) to conduct an analysis of potential threats and security gaps along the southwest border of the United States. The bill also would require DHS, not later than June 30, 2017, to issue a strategic plan to protect U.S. borders. Based on information from DHS, CBO estimates that conducting analysis and preparing the strategic plan as required by H.R. 4482 would cost about \$1 million in 2017; such spending would be subject to the availability of appropriated funds. Because enacting the legislation would not affect direct spending or revenues, pay-as-you-go procedures do not apply.

CBO estimates that enacting H.R. 4482 would not increase net direct spending or on-budget deficits in any of the four consecutive 10-year periods beginning in 2027.

H.R. 4482 contains no intergovernmental or private-sector mandates as defined in the Unfunded Mandates Reform Act and would not affect the budgets of state, local, or tribal governments.

The CBO staff contact for this estimate is Mark Grabowicz. The estimate was approved by H. Samuel Papenfuss, Deputy Assistant Director for Budget Analysis.

CONGRATULATING THE WHITESIDE COUNTY AIRPORT

HON. CHERI BUSTOS

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 21, 2016

Mrs. BUSTOS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate the Whiteside County Airport in Rock Falls, IL, which has been recognized as the "2016 Illinois General Aviation Airport of the Year" by the Illinois Department of Transportation, Division of Aeronautics.

This award recognizes the Whiteside County Airport for excellence based on a variety of criteria, including their service to the local community, safety record, and coordination with the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA). The airport and its staff have hosted numerous community events in recent years, including Boy Scout Camporees and several "Last Time" celebrations for historic aircraft. I applaud the efforts of Airport Manager Michael Dowell, along with the entire staff, for their commitment to excellence for the airport and its facilities.

Mr. Speaker, I again want to congratulate the Whiteside County Airport and its staff for this remarkable achievement and I thank them for their service to our community.

WE ARE PROUD OF OUR
EDUCATORS

HON. TOM EMMER

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 21, 2016

Mr. EMMER of Minnesota. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to celebrate three educators from Minnesota's Sixth District who have been selected as finalists in the 2016 Teacher of the Year Program for our great state. There are currently eleven finalists that have been chosen from the 115 original Teacher of the Year candidates.

The finalists are Julie Beaver, a math teacher at Zimmerman Middle/High School, Joe Lawrence, a language arts teacher at Delano High School, and Erin Rehnblom, a teacher at Otsego Elementary School.

A good teacher opens doors, inspires curiosity and positively affects a child's life forever. They provide students with all tools necessary for them to reach the highest levels of success. That is why I am so grateful that there are awards like Minnesota Teacher of the Year, which guarantees that these individuals hard work does not go unnoticed.

Our children are this nation's future, and I thank Julie, Joe, and Erin for helping to ensure a bright one.

INTRODUCTION OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA COURTS AND PUBLIC DEFENDER SERVICE VOLUNTARY SEPARATION INCENTIVE PAYMENTS ACT

HON. ELEANOR HOLMES NORTON

OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 21, 2016

Ms. NORTON. Mr. Speaker, today, I introduce the District of Columbia Courts and Public Defender Service Voluntary Separation Incentive Payments Act. The bill would make a minor change to the authorities of the District of Columbia Courts (D.C. Courts) and the Public Defender Service for the District of Columbia (PDS), placing these entities in the same position as their federal counterparts for more effective management and operation.

The bill would give the D.C. Courts and PDS the same authority federal agencies and federal courts already have to offer voluntary separation incentive payments, or buyouts, to their employees. The fiscal year 2016 omnibus bill already gives D.C. Courts buyout authority—but my bill would make this authorization permanent, and would extend it to PDS in addition to the courts. Buyouts would allow the D.C. Courts and PDS to respond to their future administrative and budget needs, and would provide the flexibility to extend buyout offers to their employees.

The U.S. Government Accountability Office (GAO) has determined that voluntary separation incentive payments may be made only where statutorily authorized. While federal agencies and federal courts have the statutory authority to offer buyouts, PDS and the D.C. Courts have not been expressly permitted to permanently provide them to their employees. PDS and the D.C. Courts seek the same buyout authority in order to manage their

workforce as budget conditions and needs change.

I urge my colleagues to support this important legislation.

TRIBUTE TO BOB MYERS AND PILLAR TECHNOLOGY GROUP

HON. DAVID YOUNG

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 21, 2016

Mr. YOUNG of Iowa. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and congratulate Mr. Bob Myers, CEO of Pillar Technology Group for its innovative vision while creating Des Moines, Iowa's newest technology office space, aptly called "The Forge". The Ohio-based technology firm works with large companies to develop unique software for autonomous vehicles and "The Internet of Things."

Pillar Technology Group prides itself for being in direct competition to many of California's Silicon Valley firms, stating that Des Moines, Iowa lends itself to a venue which "constantly pushes us." Pillar Technology Group has other "Forge" locations in Michigan and Ohio. Des Moines was selected, said CEO Myers, because it is close to several universities, has a good talent pool and is increasingly innovative. Calling Des Moines, Iowa "the Silicon Prairie," Myers revealed they have hired at least 30 employees in Iowa to join their current staff of 200 nationwide.

Bouyed by a loan from the Iowa Economic Development Authority Board in 2015, Pillar Technology Group established its foothold in central Iowa. Myers explained that "The Forge" is a philosophy, not a place. Upon entering their doors, said Myers, there is an aura of "no constraints." Nothing is impossible. That's the Iowa way. With hard work, determination, innovation and an open mind, anything can be accomplished.

Mr. Speaker, I applaud and congratulate Pillar Technology Group and CEO Bob Myers for locating its innovative vision in Iowa. I am proud to represent the Pillar Technology Group and its employees in the United States Congress. I ask that my colleagues in the United States House of Representatives join me in congratulating the firm and wishing Pillar Technology Group's "The Forge" nothing but continued success.

HONORING THE LIFE OF KEN CHRISTY

HON. CHERI BUSTOS

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 21, 2016

Mrs. BUSTOS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the memory of Ken Christy, who was tragically taken from us on March 26, 2016. Ken was a dear friend and will be greatly missed by all those in the Aurora community who were touched by his years of service as a union and community leader.

Mr. Christy was the local Aurora Township Clerk and served as President of the Illinois State Association of Letter Carriers for 25 years. As a letter carrier himself, Ken understood the challenges his union members faced